Dear Voter:

Because of delays in printing ballots in several counties, the State of Arkansas is taking steps to assure that each overseas absentee voter has the opportunity to cast a ballot in the upcoming election. Therefore, each county that has not been able to assure that ballots would be mailed to overseas voters by October 8, 2004, is sending a copy of the federal write-in absentee ballot to each overseas voter.

Enclosed please find a copy of the federal write-in absentee ballot, a copy of the candidate/measure list for your county and an envelope to return the ballot to your county.

You will probably receive the standard absentee ballot at a later date. You should feel free to complete the standard ballot and return it as well. Even if you send both the federal write-in absentee ballot and the standard ballot, you will not be penalized for "voting twice". If the standard ballot arrives at the county clerk's office by November 12, 2004, it will be counted and the federal write-in absentee ballot will not. The federal write-in absentee ballot will be counted only if the standard ballot does not arrive by November 12, 2004.

To cast your vote for federal offices on the federal write-in absentee ballot, for each office for which you vote write either the candidate's name or the political party designation on the ballot. To cast your vote for state and local offices, simply decide who you want to vote for then write in the office and the candidate's name on your ballot. To cast your vote on a measure, write the number then "yes" to vote for the measure or "no" to vote against the measure.

You may only vote in local races where you are qualified by residence. If you do not know your precinct or which local races you may be eligible to vote in, you may contact your county clerk or a family member if you have access to a telephone. You can find your county clerk's telephone number on our website at: www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections_military_voting.html. Information regarding congressional districts, circuit court districts, and state legislative districts can be located at: http://argis.ualr.edu/website/districtfinder. If you vote in a race where you are not qualified by residence, that vote will not be counted, but the remainder of your ballot will be.

After you have voted your ballot, place it in the return envelope provided by the county clerk along with the completed Voter's Declaration/Affirmation. Please be advised that a witness signature is unnecessary, but YOUR SIGNATURE is necessary.

Thank you for your participation in this election.

Charlie Daniels Secretary of State State of Arkansas